



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 7656

de Almeida

Atty. Ref.: 2764-38

Serial No. 08/859,353

TC/A.U.: 3753

Filed: May 20, 1997

Examiner: K. Lee

For: GAS FLOW CONTROL DEVICE

\* \* \* \* \*

December 14, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**STATUS INQUIRY**

On April 22, 2004, the undersigned filed a response to the Examiner's Office Action of April 20, 2004. However, since then applicant has not received any Official Action from the Patent Office regarding the application. Inquiry is made as to when an Action or Notice of Allowance will be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:   
Michelle N. Lester  
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100